



For Immediate Release: Wednesday, August 24, 2005
Contact: Rose Lynch, (608) 266-6753

JULY LOCAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATES ANNOUNCED

METRO AREAS

Madison – Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development (DWD) Secretary Roberta Gassman today announced that eleven of Wisconsin's twelve metropolitan statistical areas experienced lower unemployment rates in July than in June. In addition, these same eleven metro areas reported lower unemployment rates in July 2005 than they had one year ago, in July 2004. The one metro area with a higher July rate from one year ago and from last month -- a normal occurrence for that area during July -- was the Janesville metro area.

The Madison Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) had the state's lowest metropolitan statistical area unemployment rate at 3.2 percent. It was followed closely by the La Crosse MSA at 3.7 percent and the Wausau MSA at 3.8 percent. The Janesville MSA, the Racine MSA, and the Milwaukee MSA had area unemployment rates in July at 8.5 percent, 5.9 percent and 5.0 percent respectively.

COUNTY RATES

Sixty-three of Wisconsin's seventy-two counties experienced lower unemployment rates in July than they had experienced in June, while eight counties had higher rates in July, and one county's unemployment rate was unchanged. Fifty-one counties had lower rates in July 2005 than they had in July 2004, while eighteen had higher rates and three were unchanged.

"The vast majority of Wisconsin counties, and all but one metro area, experienced improvement in July," Secretary Gassman said. "While encouraged by this positive news, there are still areas of the state, particularly in south central and south eastern Wisconsin, that continue to struggle with layoffs and slower recovery."

Twenty-two counties in Wisconsin had unemployment rates below 4.0 percent. The lowest rates in the state were reported for Dane County at 3.1 percent, Iowa County at 3.3 percent and Pierce County at 3.4 percent. In general, the state's lowest unemployment rates were found along the western edge of the state. Only four counties had unemployment rates of 7.0 percent or higher. The state's highest unemployment rates were in Menominee County, where the July unemployment rate was estimated at 12.3 percent, Rock County, where the July rate was estimated at 8.5 percent and Iron County, where the July unemployment rate was estimated at 7.9 percent. Rock County's inordinately high unemployment rate and large increase in unemployment was due to a large temporary layoff in manufacturing.

-end-

Employment and Labor Force Household Survey

Unadjusted estimates	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total labor force	3,081,700	3,093,000	3,115,600
Employed	2,941,000	2,944,700	2,965,100
Unemployed	140,800	148,300	150,600
Wis. Unemployment Rate	4.6%	4.8%	4.8%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.2%	5.2%	5.7%

Seasonally adjusted	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
Total labor force	3,031,000	3,038,200	3,071,400
Employed	2,887,700	2,898,900	2,920,900
Unemployed	143,300	139,300	150,500
Wis. Unemployment Rate	4.7%	4.6%	4.9%
U.S. Unemployment Rate	5.0%	5.0%	5.5%

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) Unemployment % not seasonally adjusted	Current	Month Ago	Year Ago
Wisconsin	4.6	4.8	4.8
Appleton	4.1	4.6	4.6
Eau Claire	4.1	4.7	5.0
Fond du Lac	4.4	4.7	4.9
Green Bay	4.2	4.7	5.0
Janesville	8.5	5.2	6.0
La Crosse	3.7	4.1	4.4
Madison	3.2	3.6	3.7
Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis	5.0	5.3	5.8
Oshkosh-Neenah	4.2	4.7	4.8
Racine	5.9	6.2	6.3
Sheboygan	4.2	4.3	4.8
Wausau	3.8	4.3	4.6

Source *Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development Office of Economic Advisors

WISCONSIN COUNTIES
Unemployment Rates
July 2005
(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

RANK	COUNTY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE	RANK	COUNTY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE
10	ADAMS	5.6%	6.0%	7	5.8%	59	MARATHON	3.8%	4.3%	56	4.0%
4	ASHLAND	7.0%	5.8%	9	5.3%	11	MARINETTE	5.3%	5.5%	15	6.0%
41	BARRON	4.2%	4.6%	42	4.5%	13	MARQUETTE	5.1%	5.6%	12	5.6%
45	BAYFIELD	4.0%	4.8%	31	4.9%	1	MENOMINEE	12.3%	12.5%	1	12.2%
39	BROWN	4.2%	4.7%	38	4.4%	9	MILWAUKEE	5.9%	6.1%	6	6.5%
58	BUFFALO	3.8%	4.3%	55	3.8%	65	MONROE	3.7%	4.0%	65	3.9%
36	BURNETT	4.3%	4.8%	32	4.5%	31	OCONTO	4.4%	5.0%	27	5.3%
48	CALUMET	4.0%	4.5%	48	3.6%	35	ONEIDA	4.3%	4.9%	30	4.5%
28	CHIPPEWA	4.5%	5.1%	24	4.6%	42	OUTAGAMIE	4.2%	4.6%	43	4.4%
24	CLARK	4.6%	5.0%	28	4.5%	62	OZAUKEE	3.8%	4.0%	67	3.6%
55	COLUMBIA	3.9%	4.2%	60	4.2%	33	PEPIN	4.4%	4.8%	36	4.3%
32	CRAWFORD	4.4%	4.8%	35	4.6%	70	PIERCE	3.4%	3.2%	72	3.6%
72	DANE	3.1%	3.5%	71	3.2%	47	POLK	4.0%	4.6%	41	4.6%
19	DODGE	4.8%	5.1%	26	5.1%	38	PORTAGE	4.3%	4.8%	34	5.2%
66	DOOR	3.6%	4.3%	54	4.2%	29	PRICE	4.4%	5.3%	17	4.0%
20	DOUGLAS	4.8%	4.6%	45	5.3%	8	RACINE	5.9%	6.2%	5	6.3%
53	DUNN	3.9%	4.4%	52	4.1%	67	RICHLAND	3.6%	4.0%	64	4.5%
51	EAU CLAIRE	3.9%	4.5%	46	4.2%	2	ROCK	8.5%	5.2%	23	6.7%
7	FLORENCE	6.0%	6.0%	8	5.2%	16	RUSK	5.0%	6.4%	4	5.0%
34	FOND DU LAC	4.4%	4.7%	40	4.5%	68	SAUK	3.6%	3.9%	68	3.7%
6	FOREST	6.0%	6.5%	3	5.1%	26	SAWYER	4.5%	5.3%	18	4.4%
50	GRANT	4.0%	4.5%	50	4.2%	37	SHAWANO	4.3%	4.8%	33	4.4%
22	GREEN	4.7%	4.6%	44	4.3%	43	SHEBOYGAN	4.2%	4.3%	58	4.9%
23	GREEN LAKE	4.6%	5.2%	21	4.5%	63	ST. CROIX	3.8%	3.6%	70	4.2%
71	IOWA	3.3%	3.8%	69	3.3%	49	TAYLOR	4.0%	4.5%	49	4.1%
3	IRON	7.9%	6.8%	2	7.1%	69	TREMPEALEAU	3.5%	4.0%	63	3.9%
21	JACKSON	4.7%	5.1%	25	4.5%	64	VERNON	3.7%	4.1%	61	4.2%
44	JEFFERSON	4.1%	4.4%	53	4.7%	46	VILAS	4.0%	4.7%	37	4.2%
12	JUNEAU	5.1%	5.6%	11	5.7%	56	WALWORTH	3.9%	4.1%	62	4.1%
5	KENOSHA	6.2%	5.6%	13	6.7%	17	WASHBURN	4.8%	5.6%	10	4.9%
54	KEWAUNEE	3.9%	4.3%	57	3.7%	52	WASHINGTON	3.9%	4.5%	47	4.2%
61	LA CROSSE	3.8%	4.0%	66	3.7%	60	WAUKESHA	3.8%	4.2%	59	4.2%
57	LAFAYETTE	3.8%	4.4%	51	4.2%	18	WAUPACA	4.8%	5.2%	22	4.5%
15	LANGLADE	5.1%	5.4%	16	6.1%	27	WAUSHARA	4.5%	5.2%	20	5.2%
30	LINCOLN	4.4%	5.2%	19	4.7%	40	WINNEBAGO	4.2%	4.7%	39	4.3%
25	MANITOWOC	4.6%	5.0%	29	5.6%	14	WOOD	5.1%	5.5%	14	6.0%

Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development
Bureau of Workforce Information

WISCONSIN CITIES
Unemployment Rates
July 2005
 (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

RANK	CITY	RATE	LAST RATE	LAST RANK	YR AGO RATE
10	APPLETON CITY	5.4%	5.8%	8	5.9%
3	BELOIT CITY	9.2%	7.6%	2	9.1%
26	BROOKFIELD CITY	3.3%	3.7%	26	3.8%
19	EAU CLAIRE CITY	4.4%	4.9%	17	4.7%
13	FOND DU LAC CITY	5.1%	5.5%	11	5.3%
22	FRANKLIN CITY	3.8%	4.2%	22	4.2%
6	GREEN BAY CITY	6.2%	6.6%	4	6.5%
20	GREENFIELD CITY	4.1%	4.4%	20	4.5%
1	JANESVILLE CITY	11.0%	5.3%	16	8.0%
5	KENOSHA CITY	7.1%	6.4%	5	7.8%
18	LA CROSSE CITY	4.6%	4.8%	18	4.6%
27	MADISON CITY	3.2%	3.6%	27	3.4%
8	MANITOWOC CITY	5.6%	5.7%	10	6.8%
24	MENOMONEE FALLS VILLAGE	3.7%	4.0%	23	3.6%
4	MILWAUKEE CITY	7.3%	7.4%	3	8.0%
28	NEENAH CITY	3.2%	3.5%	28	3.5%
25	NEW BERLIN CITY	3.6%	3.9%	25	4.0%
21	OAK CREEK CITY	4.0%	4.0%	24	4.3%
15	OSHKOSH CITY	4.9%	5.4%	12	4.9%
2	RACINE CITY	9.6%	9.6%	1	10.2%
9	SHEBOYGAN CITY	5.6%	5.3%	15	6.8%
11	STEVENS POINT CITY	5.3%	6.0%	7	6.5%
14	SUPERIOR CITY	5.1%	4.8%	19	5.8%
16	WAUKESHA CITY	4.8%	5.3%	14	5.6%
12	WAUSAU CITY	5.2%	5.7%	9	5.6%
23	WAUWATOSA CITY	3.7%	4.2%	21	4.0%
17	WEST ALLIS CITY	4.7%	5.3%	13	5.6%
7	WEST BEND CITY	5.7%	6.3%	6	5.8%